

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, UNCND, UNFDAC

SUBJECT: 27TH CND - AGENDA ITEM 12

1. UN COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS DISCUSSED OPERATIONS OF THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (UNFDAC) FEB. 11 AND FEB. 21-22. WHILE EXPRESSING GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH THE FUND'S WORK, MANY DELEGATIONS STRESSED THE URGENT NEED FOR INCREASED AND SUSTAINED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS ASKED THE FUND TO CHANGE THE FORMAT OF ITS FINANCIAL REPORT TO PERMIT CLOSER EVALUATION OF ITS OPERATIONS BY THE COMMISSION AND POTENTIAL DONORS. UNFDAC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DE BEUS ANNOUNCED THAT PLEDGES TOTALING \$4.8 MILLION (OF WHICH THE US CONTRIBUTED \$4 MILLION) HAD BEEN RECEIVED DURING THIS SESSION OF THE COMMISSION. INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES ARE DETAILED IN SEPTTEL.

2. IN HIS SUMMARY PRESENTATION, DE BEUS STATED THAT UNFDAC COULD MEET ITS 1977 PROGRAM COMMITMENTS, BUT, AT PRESENT CONTRIBUTION LEVELS, ONLY TWO-THIRDS OF PROJECTED 1978 EXPENDITURES COULD BE MET. HE SAID THAT UNFDAC COULD UNDERTAKE NO NEW PROGRAM COMMITMENTS FOR 1978 WITHOUT A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN CONTRIBUTIONS. IN HER STATEMENT, USREP FALCO REFERRED TO CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN
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AT THE ABSENCE OF MORE PROPORTIONATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND FROM OTHER COUNTRIES AND EXPRESSED PARTICULAR DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE MEAGER SUPPORT FURNISHED BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN WHICH HEROIN ADDICTION IS RAPIDLY BECOMING A MAJOR PROBLEM. THESE COMMENTS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY UNDERLINED BY REP. BENJAMIN GILMAN WHO, TOGETHER WITH REP. JAMES SCHEUER, ATTENDED SEVERAL MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION AS AN OBSERVER. IN A STATEMENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION.

SION ON FEB .11, REP. GILMAN STATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN TOO MANY "TOKEN" CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND BY OTHER NATIONS. HE NOTED THE POSSIBILITY OF A REDUCTION IN FUTURE US SUPPORT FOR UNFDAC IF OTHER NATIONS DID NOT BEGIN CONTRIBUTING A MORE EQUITABLE SHARE OF THE FUND'S RESOURCES.

3. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THOSE WITH WHICH UNFDAC HAS CONCLUDED PROGRAM AGREEMENTS (AFGHANISTAN, THAILAND, BURMA, PAKISTAN), DESCRIBED LOCAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT ILLICIT PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING AND DRUG ABUSE, AND EXPRESSED A NEED FOR CONTINUED AND INCREASED UNFDAC ASSISTANCE. SEVERAL AFRICAN REPS IN THEIR FORMAL STATEMENTS, AND LATER IN A PRIVATE MEETING WITH DE BEUS, URGED UNFDAC TO UNDERTAKE PROGRAMS IN THEIR COUNTRIES. TURKEY EMPHASIZED ITS NEED FOR EXTENDED BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT INCREASING DRUG TRAFFIC TRANSITING ITS TERRITORY.

4. MANY DELEGATIONS CRITICIZED UNFDAC'S CONTINUED FINANCING OF PERSONNEL POSITIONS IN THE UN SECRETARIAT AND IN THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND PARTICULARLY OF POSITIONS REQUIRED FOR THE CARRYING OUT OF RESPONSIBILITIES SUCH AS THOSE STEMMING FROM TREATIES, WHICH SHOULD PROPERLY BE CARRIED ON THE REGULAR BUDGETS. DE BEUS' OPENING STATEMENT HAD NOTED THAT THE FUND SPENT \$800,000 ANNUALLY TO SUPPORT PERSONNEL LOCATED IN THE DIVISION, THE INCB, WHO AND UNESCO. DELEGATES WERE PARTICULARLY ADAMANT THAT WHO SHOULD FINANCE ITS PSYCHOTROPIC CONVENTION-RELATED ACTIVITIES FROM REGULAR BUDGET RESOURCES RATHER THAN FROM UNFDAC RESOURCES AS SUGGESTED BY WHO. DE BEUS OBSERVED THAT THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM WAS THAT THE UN SYG AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES CONTINUED TO

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ACCORD LOW BUDGETARY PRIORITY TO NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES.

5. MANY DELEGATIONS VOICED STRONG OBJECTIONS TO UNFDAC'S UNDER WRITING ANY OF THE SUBSTANTIAL COSTS INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF THE UN DRUG CONTROL UNITS TO VIENNA. SPECIAL REFERENCE WAS MADE TO COSTS INVOLVED IN RELATION TO UN NARCOTICS LABORATORY WHICH HAD JUST BEEN EXPANDED AT UNFDAC'S EXPENSE.

6 A SPIRITED DISCUSSION LED BY THE UK AND AUSTRALIAN CONCERNED THE INADEQUACY OF THE FUND'S ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT FUTURE REPORTS INCLUDE LESS HISTORICAL BACKGROUND. THE UK, SUPPORTED BY THE US AND OTHERS, PROPOSED THAT UNFDAC PRESENT ITS BUDGET IN TERMS OF OBJECT CLASS EXPENDITURES. AUSTRALIA SUGGESTED THAT IN VIEW OF THE FUND'S LIMITED RESOURCES, ONGOING PROGRAMS SHOULD BE CONSOLIDATED AND NO NEW PROGRAMS UNDERTAKEN. THE US ASKED THAT THE FUND PROVIDE PROJECTED ANNUAL BUDGETS AT LEAST ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE TO GIVE THE COMMISSION A MORE ADEQUATE BASIS FOR ASSESSING FUND

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Message Attributes

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